

# News From Other Towns

## FORT DRUM

Joe Padgett, of Olney, was in Fort Drum Sunday.

Mrs. J. W. Knight and baby, of Olney, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mrs. M. W. Knight. She was accompanied by Miss Hettie McLaughlin.

Ed Hendrix left last Saturday for Fort Pierce, where he expects to accept a position P. P. at Cobb's store. His family will follow him later.

Those who happen not to have all their oranges off are now rushing them through as the boats on the Kissimmee river will be able to make only two more trips unless it rains.

Lewis Parker, who has been in Kissimmee for several days, is now back in Fort Drum.

Outside of a few hunting parties and perhaps a dance Christmas will be dull in Fort Drum this year.

County Surveyor Swain came home to see his folks this week.

George Drawdy dropped in from Fort Pierce last week to see us.

Mr. and Mrs. Jahn Barton and daughter, Annie, returned home from a two week's hunting trip last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Parker, Lewis Parker, Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Roberts and children and Miss Ada Smith composed a party that went on a hunting and fishing trip last Saturday. They report good luck.

A dance is on hand for next Friday so they say.

Mr. J. M. Swain and family left for Fort Pierce last Wednesday where

they expect to take in the circus and remain until after Christmas.

Mr. R. D. Holmes was in Olney one day last week.

A party was around to Mr. J. F. Parker's Sunday to hear the phonograph.

Jack Lamb was in Fort Drum Sunday and returned home Monday.

M. W. Knight and H. A. Holmes are now grinding cane.

## TIBBALS

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jennings, Master Lane and Miss England visited Fort Pierce on Wednesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Harris returned from Zanesville Saturday eve accompanied by her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Eaton.

Capt. J. H. Andrews and Mr. Frank Waters returned from their trip up the river on Sunday reporting a good time.

Mrs. Geo. Saegar and Mrs. Geo. Saylor were calling at Tibbals on Sunday.

We are glad to report that Mrs. W. W. Luce is much better, she was able to go riding on Sunday.

Mrs. E. J. Luce was a visitor at the county seat on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Segar returned home from the north Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers were calling on friends at Tibbals Monday.

Mrs. P. D. Ankeny, Mrs. Rollin Ankeny and Mrs. Geo. Burnett were calling on Tibbals friends Tuesday.

## LEGEND OF THE TOPAZ.

Why the Jewel Is Called the Stone of Gratitude.

The topaz is called the stone of gratitude, and the old Roman books record the following legend, from which the stone derives this attribute:

The blind Emperor Theodosius used to hang a brazen gong before his palace gates and sit beside it on certain days, hearing and putting to rights the grievances of any of his subjects. Those who wished for his advice and help had but to sound the gong, and immediately admission into the presence of Caesar was obtained. One day a great snake crept up to the gate and struck the brazen gong with her coils, and Theodosius gave orders that no one should molest the creature and bade her tell him of her wish.

The snake bent her crest lowly in homage and straightway told the following tale:

Her nest was at the base of the gateway tower, and while she had gone to find food for her young brood a strange beast, covered with sharp needles, had invaded her home, killed the nestlings and now held possession of the little dwelling. Would Caesar grant her justice?

The emperor gave orders for the porcupine to be slain and the mother to be restored to her desolate nest. Night fell, and the sleeping world had forgotten the emperor's kindly deed, but with the early dawn a great serpent gilded into the palace, up the steps and into the royal chamber and laid upon each of the emperor's closed eyelids a gleaming topaz.

When the Emperor Theodosius awoke he was no longer blind, for the mother snake had paid her debt of gratitude.

## PASSPORTS IN FRANCE.

The Kind That Were Issued in the Time of Louis XVI.

The mysterious cards of the Count de Vergennes each contained a brief history in cipher of those to whom they were given. De Vergennes was Louis XVI's minister of foreign affairs, and when strangers of a suspicious character were about to enter France he issued to them these strange cards, which acted as passports, and were also intended to give information concerning the bearer without his knowledge.

In the first place, its color indicated the nationality of the man who carried it. The person's age, approximately, was told by the shape of the card. A fillet around the border of the card told whether he was a bachelor, married or a widower. Dots gave information as to his position and for-

tune, and the expression of his face was shown by a decorative flower.

The stranger's religion was told by the punctuation after his name. If he was a Catholic it was a period, if a Jew a dash, if he was a Lutheran a semicolon and no stop at all indicated him a nonbeliever.

So a man's morals, character and appearance were pointed out by the pattern of his passport, and the authorities could tell at a glance whether he was a gamester or a preacher, a physician or a lawyer, and whether he was to be put under surveillance or allowed to go free.—Sunday Magazine.

## Materialistic Man.

Sir James Crichton-Browne, the English physician, speaking before some members of his profession, protested against the tendency to adopt too materialistic an explanation of man. The raw material of a medical practice became a mere contrivance of matter and force; the brain of this poor consumer of pills and potions a "glue-like substance, nine-tenths water, with a little phosphorus thrown in." "They left us man," said Sir James, with a smashing figure, "a motor car, self made and self started, with no passengers and no chauffeur, moved by a series of explosions or redistributions of energy, and rushing on to inevitable destruction."

## A Prayer.

Send some one, Lord, to love the best that is in me and to accept nothing less from me, to touch me with the searching tenderness of the passion for the ideal, to demand everything from me for my own sake, to give me so much that I cannot think of myself and to ask so much that I can keep nothing back, to console me by making me strong before sorrow comes, to help me so to live that while I part with many things by the way I lose nothing of the gift of life.—Hamilton W. Mabie.

## Long Sighted.

New Nurse—But why don't you want to take your bath, Johnny?  
Little Johnny—'Cause somebody said the good die young, and I don't want to take chances on being drowned. See?—Exchange.

## Christmas Holiday Rates

Via Atlantic Coast Line at all points. See the nearest railroad agent. Remember that the round trip fare is one fare and a third plus 25 cents. If you want Pullman reservations, schedules or other definite information write to Frank C. Boyleston, District Passenger Agent, Atlantic Coast Line, Jacksonville, Fla.

# WANTS

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